Application No. 09/242,772
Paper Dated August 5, 2003
In reply to USPTO correspondence dated 05/05/2003
Attorney Docket No. 3374-990278

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Following is the list of claims and their status:

1-27 and 49 (Cancelled)

- 28. (Currently Amended) A-An isolated nucleic acid in isolated form, comprising a sequence encoding a wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein which is homologous to the protein encoded by the PLAG1 (pleomorphic adenoma gene 1) protein gene, wherein the amino acid eDNA sequence corresponding to said of the PLAG1 gene protein is the sequence translated from the nucleic acid sequence as represented in SEQ ID NO: 116 starting with the ATG at position 481 to 483 of said nucleic acid sequence, or a fragment thereof which can be used to diagnose cells having a non-physiological proliferative capacity depicted in figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 116), and wherein a protein encoded by the nucleic acid comprises a polypeptide sequence which is at least 75% identical to the polypeptide sequence encoded by PLAG1 in the region from zinc fingers 4 to 7 as represented in SEQ ID NOs: 120 to 123, or a complementary or antisense version of the nucleic acid.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid as claimed in claim 47–28, comprising the nucleotide sequence of the *PLAG1* gene as depicted in figure 4A (SEQ ID NO: 116), or a complementary or antisense version of the nucleic acid.
- 33. (Currently Amended) A macromolecule comprising a nucleic acid in isolated form, comprising a sequence encoding a a fusion of at least two of an oligonucleotide, a polynucleotide and a gene, wherein at least a first one of said oligonucleotide, polynucleotide or gene comprises a nucleotide sequence of at least one exon consisting of the PLAG1 (pleomorphic adenoma gene 1) gene, and protein, wherein the amino acid sequence of the PLAG1 [gene] protein is the sequence translated from the nucleic acid sequence as represented in SEQ ID NO: 116 starting with the ATG at position 481 to 483 of said nucleic acid sequence, or a fragment thereof which can be used to diagnose cells having a non-physiological proliferative capacity. at least a second one of said oligonucleotide, polynucleotide or gene comprises at least one exon of the CTNNB1 (B catenin) gene, or complementary or antisense versions of the nucleotide sequence.

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- 47. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid in isolated form according to claim 28, wherein the nucleic acid is one of an oligonucleotide, a polynucleotide and a gene comprising a sequence of at least one exon of the PLAG1 (pleomorphic adenoma gene 1) gene, or the complementary sequence or antisense version of the nucleic acid; wherein the amino acid sequence of said PLAG1 fragment gene encodes a protein comprising comprises at least one of the zinc fingers 1 to 7 represented by the sequences as represented in SEQ ID NOs: 117 to 123.
- 48. (Currently Amended) A macromolecule comprising a nucleic acid in isolated form, comprising a sequence encoding fusion of at least two of an oligonucleotide, a polynucleotide and a gene having a nucleotide sequence of at least one exon of the promoter region of a CTNNB1 gene ,or the complementary sequence or antisense versions of the nucleotide sequence—which can be used to diagnose cells having a non-physiological proliferative capacity.
- 50. (New) A macromolecule according to claim 48, wherein said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a transcript corresponding to the nucleic acid, a cDNA corresponding to the nucleic acid, and a sense or antisense DNA corresponding to the nucleic acid.
- 51. (New) A macromolecule comprising a nucleic acid in isolated form comprising at least one exon of the CTNNB1 gene, which can be used to diagnose cells having a non-physiological proliferative capacity.
- 52. (New) A macromolecule according to claim 51, wherein said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of a transcript corresponding to the nucleic acid, a cDNA corresponding to the nucleic acid, and a sense or antisense DNA corresponding to the nucleic acid.